

Message Text

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21

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 OMB-01 AID-05 IGA-02 MC-02 L-03 EB-07 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 /072 W

----- 051765

R 160817Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4281

INFO SECDEF WASHDC//ISA//

JCS WASHDC

USCINCEUR//ECJ4/7//

DA WASHDC

CDR MICOM RSA AL//AMCPM-KMS//

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 5230

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: MASS, KU

SUBJ: KUWAIT IHAWK PROGRAM

REF: A. STATE 293206 DTG 120146Z DEC 75

B. KUWAIT 2978 DTG 160610Z JUL 75

C. DA 301945Z JUL 75

D. KUWAIT 4886 DTG 220945Z NOV 75

E. KUWAIT 4345 DTG 221247Z OCT 75 (AVAILABLE FROM DA)

1. REFTEL A STATES CONCLUSION THAT THE MOST FRUITFUL AND EXPEDITIOUS MEANS TO CLARIFY AND RESOLVE VARIOUS ISSUES CONCERNING THE IHAWK PROGRAM ARE DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBASSY AND GOK OFFICIALS AND THAT DEPARTMENT IS MOST INTERESTED IN MOVING THE PROGRAM AHEAD. WITH PRESENTATION OF CASES UCY AND UCQ, AND ASSURANCE THAT UDL (PROGRAM MANAGEMENT) AND UCT (VEHICLES AND RADIOS AND MISC.) WILL BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY, GOK OFFICIALS HAVE AGREED TO DISCUSSIONS ON IHAWK. EMBASSY, OF COURSE, AGREES THAT DISCUSSIONS ARE NEEDED AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.

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2. EMBASSY (DOD REP) HAD FIRST DISCUSSIONS WITH KUWAIT AIR

DEFENSE FORCE (KADF) PERSONNEL ON 08 DEC 75 IN COURSE OF FOLLOWING UP CASES UCY AND UCQ WHICH HAD BEEN PRESENTED TO UNDERSECRETARY OF DEFENSE ON 06 DEC (WITH COPIES DIRECT TO KADF). KDAF REPS EXPRESSED, IN STRONG TERMS, THEIR DISPLEASURE ON FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. COSTS-KADF REPS STATED COSE WAS OVER TWO TO THREE TIMES WHAT THEY HAD BEEN EXPECTING. (EMBASSY RECOMMENDS DEPARTMENT REVIEW REFTELS B, C AND D AND RETRANSMIT TO ALCON IF CONSIDERED APPROPRIATE. AMBASSADOR PROVIDED OVERALL COST ESTIMATE PROVIDED BY REFTELC VERBALLY TO MINDEF AS \$200 MILLION PLUS CONSTRUCTION.) COST INCREASES MAY BECOME POLITICAL PROBLEM FOR MINDEF.

B. CASE OPERATION DATE (15 DEC 75) - KDAF REP ASKED WHAT HAPPENS IF IT ISN'T SIGNED AND WHY IS TIME SO SHORT? KDAF REP PROVIDED INFO THAT IN ABSENCE OF SENIOR ADVISOR (COL MUSTAPHA KHAIRY-ON PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA) UNTIL 20 DEC 75, CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF (IN LONDON-RETURN DATE UNKNOWN) AND MINDEF (IN LONDON-ETR 01 JAN 76), SIGNATURE BY 15 DEC 75 NOT POSSIBLE (N.B. 12-15 DEC MOSLEM HOLIDAY). DOD REP STRESSED URGENCY OF KEEPING TRAINING PROGRAM GOING. KDAF REP AGREED TO DISCUSS ON 09 DEC 75.

3. ON 09 DEC 75, FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WERE HELD WHICH LASTED ALMOST FOUR HOURS. (IT IS OF INTEREST TO NOTE THAT WITH EXCEPTION OF RESOLUTION OF VEHICLES-SEE REFTEL E-- THIS WAS FIRST ACTUAL DISCUSSION OF IHAWK SINCE SUSPENSION OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN PMO AND KDAF IN AUGUST). DOD REP ATTEMPTED GAIN ACCEPTANCE OF TRAINING CASE (UCQ) ON EXPEDITED BASIS EVEN VOLUNTEERING GOOD OFFICES OF AMBASSADOR TO GET DEPUTY PRIMIN TO SIGN IF MILITARY WOULD APPROVE CASE. KDAF OBSERVED THAT NOTE 2 TO FMS CASE UCQ REFERRED TO TRAINING IAW IHAWK TRAINING PLAN DATED 20 MAY 75. (FYI: THIS WAS FIRST DRAFT PREPARED BEFORE DISCUSSION WITH KDAF. IT WAS REWORKED AFTER JUN IHAWK TEAM VISIT AND SIGNIFICANTLY REVISED VERSION DATED 15 JUL 75 PREPARED. THIS IN TURN HAS BEEN REVISED BY CHANGE ONE OF 11 AUG 75. END FYI). IMPACT OF THIS MATTER TERMINATED PROSPECTS OF EXPEDITED APPROVAL-MATTER WILL BE LEFT FOR PMO VISIT. OTHER QUESTIONS RAISED WILL BE REPORTED BY SEPTTEL. CONFIDENTIAL

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4. DATE OF VISIT PROPOSED REFTEL A CONFLICTS WITH PROPOSED VISIT OF DCINCEUR 20-22 JAN 76. EMBASSY PREFERS NO OTHER MILITARY VISITORS BETWEEN 13 AND 23 JAN 76. PREPARATIONS FOR VISIT OF GENERAL HUYSER ACCOMPANIED BY FSO-1, MAJGEN PLUS EIGHT WITH OWN AIRCRAFT (CREW OF 16) COUPLED WITH GOK HABIT OF ARBITRARILY CHANGING PLANS PRECLUDE OTHER DOD VISITORS DURING THIS PERIOD.

5. KADF DESIRES DISCUSS IHAWK AFTER 20 DEC 75. AFTER CONSIDERING HOLIDAYS, EMBASSY SUGGESTS 3-13 JAN AND NOTES THAT THIS WILL REQUIRE CANCELLATION OF LONG-PLANNED EUCOM STAFF VISIT. (NOTE: 03 JAN 76 IS LOCAL HOLIDAY, HOWEVER, EMBASSY WILL CONDUCT BUSINESS ON THIS MATTER.) ALTERNATIVELY, 24 JAN IS PROPOSED SHOULD 03 JAN 76 NOT BE CONSIDERED DESIRABLE.

6. EMBASSY REQUESTS DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON TIMING OF VISIT. OTHER INFO REQUESTED REFTEL A WILL BE PROVIDED BY SEPTELS.

7. DEPARTMENT PLEASE EXPEDITE CASES UDL AND UCT.
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